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STATE LEGISLATURE, MADRAS

THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

Monday, the 9th March 1959.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (THE HON. DR. P. V. CHERIAN) in the Chair.

I.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

Shifting of Secretariat offices

* 111 *Q.*—SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in view of the Madras Harbour expansion schemes, there is any proposal before the Government to construct new buildings for the Legislature and the Secretariat offices in the Government House Estate and shift them to those buildings; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which it now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (*a*) There is no such proposal before the Government.

(*b*) Does not arise.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Are we to presume that there is no proposal to shift the Secretariat offices elsewhere notwithstanding the Harbour expansion?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : There is no proposal at present.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Would not the Harbour expansion affect in any way the physical location of the Secretariat in the present building?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : It is a future possibility.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : Is there any proposal to close the South Sea Gate of the Fort and, if so, were the Secretariat to continue here, what alternative arrangement will be made for access to the Secretariat buildings?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : The question is hypothetical.

SRI MOHAMED RAZA KHAN : Is it not a fact that the Ministers themselves who are occupying the front rooms facing the Marina or the sea have complained that they are put to a lot of inconvenience by the expansion of the Harbour down south?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : I do not think anybody has complained yet. They might do it later.

Sri V. K. PALANISWAMY GOUNDER: இந்தக் கௌன்ஸில் ஹாலைப் பக்கத்தில் கட்டுவதாக யோசனையிருக்கிறது. அப்படிக் கட்டினால், ரொம்பவும் நெருக்கமாய் இராதா என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: இப்பொழுது இருப்பதை விடக் கொஞ்சம் விசாலமாகவும், சௌகரியமாகவும் இருக்கும்.

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM: Will the Hon. Minister kindly explain what is the special significance of the term that he used 'at present'?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: There is no proposal at present. In fact, we cannot envisage all the future possibilities. That is why I said, 'We have no proposal at present'.

Sri T. PURUSHOTHAM: In view of the Harbour expansion scheme, is the road between the area of Harbour expansion and the Secretariat buildings to be closed?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: A separate question may be put.

Electric bells in City Transport buses

* 112 Q.—Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal under consideration of the Government to install electric bells in all the City Transport buses; and

(*b*) if so, when it will be implemented?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: (*a*) & (*b*) All running buses of the State Transport Department have been fitted with electric or mechanical bells.

Sri G. KRISHNAMOORTHY: Is it not a fact that in spite of the fitting of the bells, even now conductors use whistles and that in such a way that the ears get deafened?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: Perhaps some of these bells are not in working order. But I think whistling is a school-boy's habit and people like it.

Vidwan T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN: கண்டக்டர்கள் சாதாரணமாக வாயில் விரல் வைத்து விசில் அடிக்கிறார்கள். அது அருவருக்கத்தக்கதாக இருக்கிறது. மேலும், அதே கையால் டிக்கட்டும் கொடுக்கிறார்கள். இந்த முறையை நீக்கச் சர்க்கார் ஏற்பாடு செய்யுமா?

The Hon. Sri R. VENKATARAMAN: அதற்குத்தான் பெல் வைக்கப்பட்டிருக்கிறது. அதை உபயோகப்படுத்தவில்லை என்றால், தகுந்த இன்ஸ்ட்ரக்ஷன்ஸ் கொடுக்கப்படும்.

Sri MOHAMED RAZA KHAN: Will the Hon. Minister agree with me that rattling of the bus itself produces such a heavy sound that the ringing of these electric bells cannot be heard and that that is why the conductors resort to whistling which may be the habit of school boys?